

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An information providing system which includes: an IC card; a
5 settlement center which monitors and holds contents information of the IC card, and
upon receiving the contents information readout request, provides the information
held therein to the requesting party; communication networks; an information center
which, upon receiving a contents information request, outputs a contents information
readout request to the settlement center and requests contents information of the IC
10 card, and upon receiving the contents information, transmits this to the
communication networks; and a communication terminal which transmits a contents
information request to an information center, and upon receiving the contents
information of the IC card transmitted from the information center, displays the
contents information on a display unit. Thus, a user can readily confirm the contents
15 of the data in a data holding member such as an IC card without necessitating
installment of a special viewer and without necessitating the user to carry a device
which is only occasionally used.